

High Temperature Polymer Membrane Development at Argonne National Laboratory

Seong-Woo Choi, Suhas Niyogi, John Kopasz, Romesh Kumar, and Debbie Myers Chemical Engineering Division

Argonne National Laboratory



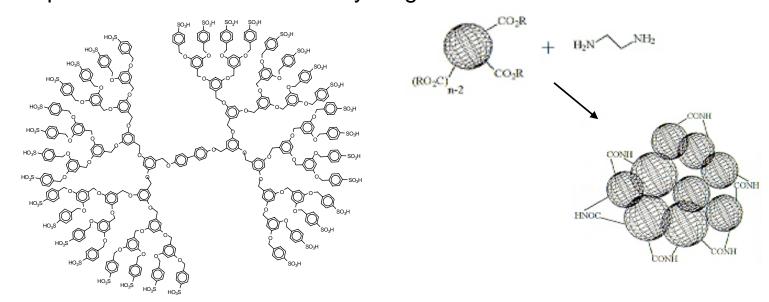
A U.S. Department of Energy Office of Science Laboratory Operated by The University of Chicago





Approach: cross-linked dendrimeric polymers

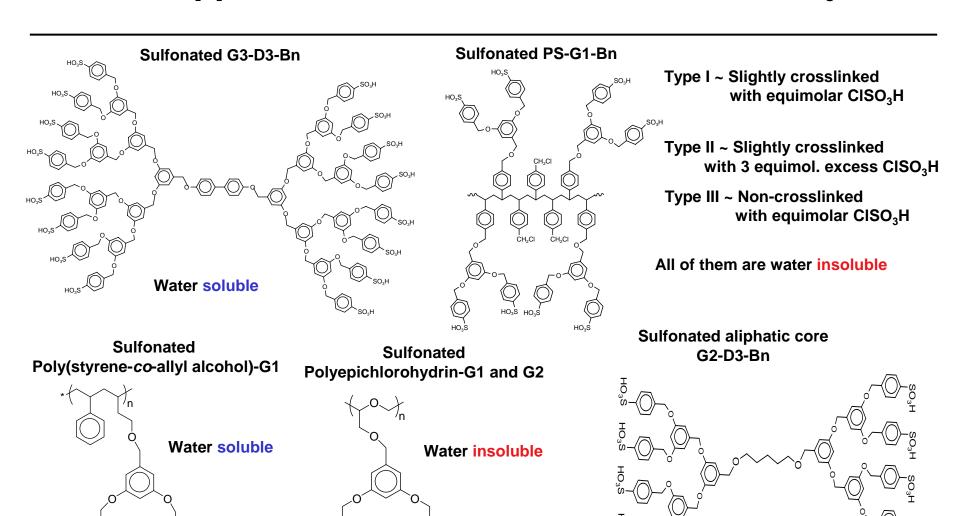
- Dendrimers are highly-branched spherical macromolecules
- High density of functional groups on dendrimer surface
 - Low equivalent weight (250)
 - improves water retention at high temperatures
- Membrane is a network of cross-linked dendrimers
 - cross-linking eliminates water solubility and controls swelling
 - pore size can be controlled by length of cross-linker







Interim Approach: Sulfonated Dendronized Polymers





SO₃H

SO₃H

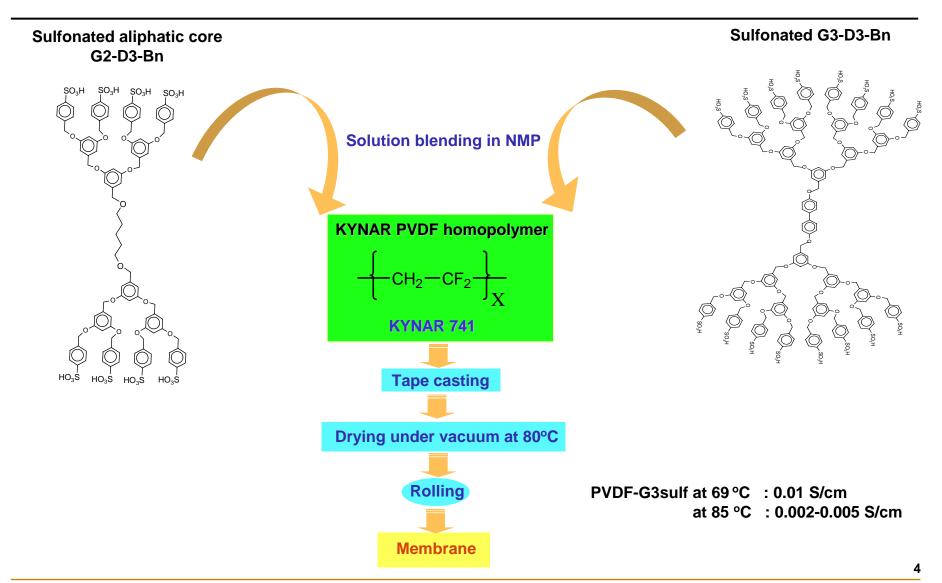
SO₃H

SO₃H



Water soluble

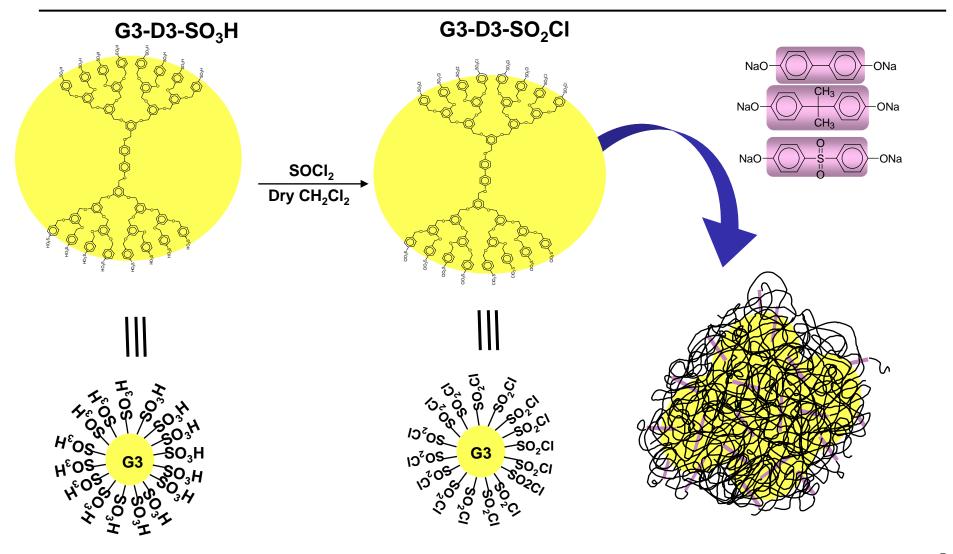
Interim Approach: Dendron-PVDF Blends







Crosslinking of Dendrimer







Status

- Dendrimer macromolecules have been prepared
 - Have prepared G1, G2, and G3 sulfonic-acid terminated dendrimers
- Polymer membranes have been prepared by attaching sulfonated dendrimer macromolecules to polymer backbones or blending with polymers
- TGA shows membranes are thermally stable up to 240°C
- Initial conductivity results:
 - **0.101 S/cm at 76°C and 6% relative humidity** for polyepichlorohydrin-G2-sulfonated polymer
- Beginning cross-linking of dendrimer macromolecules



